

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method of making a blow-molded PET plastic container having an externally threaded wide-mouth finish, comprising:

mounting a preform in a mold having a surface, the preform having a body forming region, a thread forming region above the body forming region, and a dome forming region above the thread forming region;

stretching the preform against the mold surface to form an intermediate article having a dome portion connected to a threaded neck portion of the container; and

severing the dome portion from the threaded neck portion to produce a wide mouth container, wherein the ratio of a wall thickness of the thread forming region of the preform to the wall thickness of the threaded neck portion is about ~~4.74.09~~—5.59.

2. (canceled).

3. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the ratio of the diameter of the thread forming region of the preform to the diameter of the finished threads is approximately 0.500 +/- 0.005.

4. (previously presented): A method of making a blow-molded PET plastic container having an externally threaded wide-mouth finish, comprising:

mounting a preform in a mold having a surface, the preform having a body forming region, a thread forming region above the body forming region, and a dome forming region above the thread forming region;

stretching the preform against the mold surface to form an intermediate article having a dome portion connected to a threaded neck portion of the container, a wall thickness of the threaded neck portion being within the range of 0.032-0.038 inches; and

severing the dome portion from the threaded neck portion to produce a wide mouth container,

wherein the ratio of the diameter of the thread forming region of the preform to the diameter of the finished threads is approximately $0.500 \pm .005$.

5. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the preform is preheated.

6. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the temperature of the mold surface is less than 60.degree. F.

7. (currently amended): A method of making a blow-molded PET plastic container having an externally threaded wide-mouth finish, comprising:

mounting a preform in a mold having a surface, the preform having a body forming region, a thread forming region above the body forming region, and a dome forming region above the thread forming region;

stretching the preform against the mold surface to form an intermediate article having a dome portion connected to a threaded neck portion of the container, a wall thickness of the threaded neck portion being within the range of 0.032-0.038 inches; and

severing the dome portion from the threaded neck portion to produce a wide mouth container,

wherein the crest of the thread is flattened, the upper surface of the thread extends ~~downwardly~~upwardly toward the outer surface of the neck at an angle of about 150.degree. and the lower surface of the thread extends ~~upwardly~~downwardly toward the outer surface of the neck at an angle of about 100.degree., the depth of the thread being about 0.057 inches.

8. - 9. (canceled).

10. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein a thickness of a wall portion of the thread forming region of the preform is within the range of 0.1555-0.1790 inches.

11. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein a depth of a thread on the threaded neck portion from root to crest is 0.0575 inches.

12. (currently amended): A method of making a blow-molded PET plastic container having an externally threaded wide-mouth finish, comprising:

mounting a preform in a mold having a surface, the preform having a body forming region, a thread forming region above the body forming region, and a dome forming region

above the thread forming region, a thickness of a wall portion of the thread forming region of the preform is within the range of 0.1555-0.1790 inches;

stretching the preform against the mold surface to form an intermediate article having a dome portion connected to a threaded neck portion of the container; and

severing the dome portion from the threaded neck portion to produce a wide mouth container,

wherein the wall thickness of the threaded neck portion ranges from 0.032-0.038 inches.

13. (previously presented): The method of claim 12, wherein a depth of a thread on the threaded neck portion from root to crest is 0.0575 inches.